

Message Text

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ACTION PM-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

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DODE-00 L-02 EB-07 SAJ-01 SAM-01 /040 W

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?? R 251325Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2534

?? INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L NAIROBI 3368

LONDON FOR HACBRKAMP

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: 11*94, SE, SU, MP, XO

SUBJECT: ALLEGED SOVIET INTEREST IN AGALEGA ISLANDS

1. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED REPORT FROM COMMANDER, USAF TRACKING STATION IN SEYCHELLES SUMMARIZING CONVERSATION BETWEEN PAUL MOULINIE, A PROMINENT SEYCHELLOIS, AND AMERICAN VISITOR TO SEYCHELLES IN WHICH MOULINIE REPORTEDLY SAID THAT SOVIETS ARE APPLYING PRESSURE ON HIM TO QTE SELL UNQTE AGALEGA ISLANDS, TWO SMALL, ELONGATED ISLANDS (TOTALLING 27 SQUARE MILES) LOCATED ROUGHLY 450 MILES S-SE OF MAHE, SEYCHELLES AT 10 DEGREES 25 MINUTES SOUTH 56 DEGREES 35 MINUTES EAST. ACCORDING REPORT, SOVIETS SAID TO BE INTERESTED IN ESTABLISHING QTE NAVAL PORT UNQTE.

2. REPORT STATES MOULINIE WAS APPROACHED QTE THROUGH MAURITIUS UNQTE. (COMMENT: WE NOTE CONTACT COULD HAVE BEEN MADE IN SEYCHELLES BY REPRESENTATIVES OF SOVIET AFRO-ASIAN SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE WHO WERE SCHEDULED TO VISIT SEYCHELLES FROM APRIL 19-24).

3. COMMENT: MOULINIE IS MEMBER OF IMPORTANT SEYCHELLOIS FAMILY WHICH FORMERLY OWNED LARGE NUMBER OF CONFIDENTIAL

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ISLANDS IN OR NEAR SEYCHELLES. WE UNDERSTAND MOST OF THESE HOLDINGS (WHICH REPORTEDLY INCLUDED FARQUHAR AND CHAGOS) WERE SOLD TO BRITISH TO FORM BIOT. IT UNCLEAR IF MOULINIE FAMILY HAS OWNERSHIP OF AGALEGAS.

ACCORDING ONLY REFERENCE AVAILABLE (AREA HANDBOOK OF
INDIAN OCEAN TERRITORIES, 1971 EDITION), AGALEGAS FORM
PART OF MAURITIUS. WOULD APPRECIATE ANY COMMENTS
EMBASSY PORT LOUIS WOULD CARE TO MAKE.
MARSHALL

CONFIDENTIAL

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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PORT LOUIS
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